

wearer downward from above the waist to below the hips of the wearer; a skirt formed by a loose piece of material of a bell-shaped longitudinal configuration that fits around the body of the wearer upward from the bodice to proximate the shoulders of the wearer, the skirt having a hem at the shoulders of the wearer with front and back portions; a seam joining the bodice with the skirt; a plurality of button holes formed in a spaced apart relationship from one another in one of the front and back portions of the hem of the skirt; and a plurality of buttons attached in a spaced apart relationship from one another on the other of the front and back portions of the hem of the skirt so as to allow fitting of at least some of the buttons through at least some of the button holes and thereby closing of the skirt along the shoulders and arms of the wearer so as to convert the bodice into a mini-skirt and the skirt into blouse.

**[0017]** A new garment includes a tubular bodice having a first open end and a second open end, a skirt having a first open end and a second open end, the skirt being attached at its first open end to the second open end of the tubular bodice, and a plurality of buttons and button holes around at least one of the first open end of the tubular bodice and the second open end of the skirt. The buttons are configured to be inserted through the button holes to close off portions of the end they are on.

**[0018]** The garment may be positioned on a wearer's body, with one or more of the buttons inserted through corresponding button holes to close off a portion of the end they are on, and with the closed off portion is looped over a portion of the wearer's body to prevent the garment or a portion thereof from falling downward. The tubular bodice may be positioned extending over a portion of the wearer's lower body, and the skirt may be positioned above the tubular bodice extending over a portion of the wearer's upper body. The closed off portion may include a shoulder strap, sleeve portion, or neck strap.

**[0019]** These and other aspects, features, and advantages of the present invention will become more readily apparent from the attached drawings and the detailed description of the preferred embodiments, which follow.

#### BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE DRAWINGS

**[0020]** The accompanying drawings, which are incorporated herein and form a part of the specification, illustrate exemplary embodiments and, together with the description, further serve to enable a person skilled in the pertinent art to make and use these embodiments and others that will be apparent to those skilled in the art. The invention will be more particularly described in conjunction with the following drawings wherein:

**[0021]** FIGS. 1 and 2 are front and back views respectively of a first embodiment of a composite garment, being presented as a dress.

**[0022]** FIGS. 3 and 4 are front and back views respectively of a second embodiment of the composite garment, being presented as a dress.

**[0023]** FIGS. 5-7 are front, side (or profile) and back views respectively of a third embodiment of the composite garment, being presented as a dress differently proportioned compared to that of the second embodiment of FIGS. 3 and 4.

**[0024]** FIGS. 8-10 are front, side (or profile) and back views respectively of a fourth embodiment of the composite

garment, being presented as a skirt differently proportioned compared to that of the third embodiment of FIGS. 5-7.

**[0025]** FIGS. 11-13 are front, side (or profile) and back views respectively of a fifth embodiment of the composite garment, being presented as mini-dresses.

**[0026]** FIGS. 14-16 are front, side (or profile) and back views respectively of a sixth embodiment of the composite garment, being presented as tops differently proportioned compared to that of the fifth embodiment of FIGS. 11-13 in combination with tights.

**[0027]** FIGS. 17A-17AZ depict the composite garment wearable in a multitude of outfit variations, such as differing embodiments of dresses, skirts, trousers, tops, ponchos and jumpsuits.

**[0028]** FIGS. 18-20 are enlarged front views of exemplary outfit variations of the composite garment as shown in FIGS. 17AI, 17O and 17AM, respectively.

**[0029]** FIGS. 21-23 are enlarged front views of exemplary outfit variations of the composite garment as shown in FIGS. 17AY, 17AM and 17AQ, respectively.

**[0030]** FIGS. 24-26 are enlarged front views of exemplary outfit variations of the composite garment as shown in FIGS. 17K, 17C and 17E, respectively.

**[0031]** FIGS. 27-29 are enlarged back views of exemplary outfit variations of the composite garment as shown in FIGS. 17AB, 17AJ and 17AO, respectively.

**[0032]** Like reference numerals refer to like parts throughout the several views of the drawings.

#### REFERENCE NUMERALS/PARTS LIST

- [0033]** 100—composite garment (FIGS. 1-4)
- [0034]** 102—skirt of garment 100
  - [0035]** 102A—front
  - [0036]** 102B—back
- [0037]** 104—bodice of garment 100
- [0038]** 106—front panel
  - [0039]** 106A—first end
  - [0040]** 106B—second end
- [0041]** 108—middle seam between skirt 102 & bodice 104
- [0042]** 110—hem on skirt 102
  - [0043]** 110A—front portion
  - [0044]** 110B—back portion
- [0045]** 112—button holes in hem 110
- [0046]** 114—buttons on hem 110
- [0047]** 116—ruffled portion of skirt 102
- [0048]** 118—elastic band along top edge margin of bodice 104
- [0049]** 200—composite garment (FIGS. 5-7)
- [0050]** 202—skirt of garment 200
  - [0051]** 202A—front
  - [0052]** 202B—back
- [0053]** 204—bodice of garment 200
- [0054]** 206—front panel
- [0055]** 208—middle seam between skirt 202 & bodice 204
- [0056]** 210—hem on skirt 202
- [0057]** 212—button holes in hem 210
- [0058]** 214—buttons on hem 210
- [0059]** 216—ruffled portion of skirt 202
- [0060]** 300—composite garment (FIGS. 8-16)
- [0061]** 302—skirt of garment 300
- [0062]** 304—bodice of garment 300
- [0063]** 306—front panel
- [0064]** 308—middle seam between skirt 302 & bodice 304
- [0065]** 310—hem on skirt 302